



**1997**

# **AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY at a glance**



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In 1911, an area of 2,368 km<sup>2</sup> was transferred to the Commonwealth of Australia by the State of New South Wales to become the Australian Capital Territory (ACT). The city of Canberra, Australia's national capital, is located in the northern part of this area, 300 km south-west of Sydney and 650 km north-east of Melbourne by road. On 11 May 1989 self-government for the Territory was proclaimed.

The Eastern Standard Time is 10 hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time. Of the six States and two Territories which comprise the Commonwealth of Australia, the ACT has the highest population density but it is the smallest in area.

Symbols used in this brochure:

p	preliminary	—	nil or rounded to zero
n.a.	not available	ERP	Estimated resident population
an.	annual	ord.	ordinary
av.	average		

Dalma Jacobs  
Regional Director

## ACT IN COMPARISON TO AUSTRALIA

Area	Unit	Period	ACT	AUST
	'000 sq km	—	2.4	7 682.3
<b>Buildings</b>				
Building approvals	\$m	1995-96	767.5	24 328.9
<b>Demography</b>				
Estimated resident population	'000	Jun 1996	308.0	18 312
Population growth rate	%	Jun 1996	1.1	1.4
Births	per '000 mean pop.	1995	14.5	14.2
Deaths	per '000 mean pop.	1995	3.7	6.9
Marriages	per '000 mean pop.	1995	5.8	6.1
Divorces	per '000 mean pop.	1995	5.9	2.8
<b>Earnings</b>				
Average weekly earnings	av. ord. time adult (\$)	1996	780	675
<b>Education</b>				
Primary/secondary students	'000	Aug 1996	61.3	3 143.0
Technical & further education students	'000	1995	18.8	1 220.0
Higher education students	'000	1996	20.0	634.0
<b>Finance</b>				
Gross domestic product (current prices)	\$m	1995-96	10 472	486 054
Gross domestic product per capita	\$	1995-96	34 233	26 864
<b>Labour Force</b>				
Labour force	an. av. '000	1995-96	170.4	9 068.9
Employed persons	an. av. '000	1995-96	157.6	8 302.2
Unemployed persons	an. av. '000	1995-96	12.8	766.7
<b>Manufacturing</b>				
Persons employed	'000	1995-96	3.9	923.1
Turnover	\$m	1995-96	534	197 963
<b>Retail Trade</b>				
Establishments	no.	1991-92	2 339.0	80 332.0
Turnover	\$m	1995-96	2 250.3	120 770.1

	Unit	Period	ACT	AUST
<b>Transport</b>				
New motor vehicles registered (excl. motor cycles)	'000	1995-96	12.1	636.5

#### CLIMATE OF ACT

(Lat.35°19'S, Long.149°11'E, Height above MSL 571 metres)

Averages for 1996

	Air temperature °C		Fog	Rain	
	max.	min.	days	days	mm
January	25.8	13.4	0	14	85.0
April	18.6	4.7	0	6	18.2
July	11.2	0.7	3	11	73.0
October	20.0	7.2	2	8	67.6

#### Extremes

#### During 1996

#### Long term

Air temperature — Hottest	34.6 °C (24 Dec)	42.2 °C (1.2.68)
— Coldest	9.6 °C (16 July)	-10.0 °C (11.7.71)
Rainfall — Highest in month	88.6 mm (Sept)	312.0 mm (Mar 1950)
— Lowest in month	18.2 mm (Apr)	2.0 mm (Aug 1994)
Wind Highest gust	124 km/hr (13 Nov)	128 km/hr (24.11.57)

#### TIME SERIES FOR THE ACT

AGRICULTURE	Unit	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
Agricultural establishments	no.	82	95	93
Area	ha	52 741	51 775	48 063
Total area of crops (excl. pastures and grasses)	ha	514	353	322
Gross value of production				
Crops (incl. pastures and grasses)	\$'000	2 221	3 592	p3 742
Livestock				
Cattle and calves	no.	12 231	13 368	12 780
Sheep and lambs	no.	101 243	97 239	77 741
Poultry (all purposes)	no.	216 989	200 960	269 875
Livestock products				
Meat (carcass weight)				
Beef and veal	tonnes	860	851	1 052
Mutton and lamb	tonnes	503	470	447
Pigmeat	tonnes	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Wool production				
Shorn wool, greasy	tonnes	455	421	440
Value of agricultural production				
Crops	\$'000	2 221	3 592	p3 742
Livestock slaughterings	\$'000	2 261	2 394	p2 002
Livestock products	\$'000	6 368	6 548	p6 173
Total	\$'000	10 850	12 535	p11 917

#### BUILDING

#### 1993-94

#### 1994-95

#### 1995-96

Building approvals				
Houses	no.	1 679	1 533	1 208
Other residential	no.	2 381	1 184	857
Total	no.	4 060	2 717	2 065
Completions				
New residential	\$m	349.3	389.6	250.6
Alterations and additions				
to residential	\$m	67.1	69.0	60.5
Non-residential	\$m	168.0	368.0	182.6
Value of work done during period				
New residential	\$m	373.4	332.8	240.0
Alterations and additions				
to residential	\$m	67.7	69.3	55.0
Non-residential	\$m	260.1	298.3	310.8

DEMOGRAPHY	Unit	1994	1995	1996
Estimated resident population as at 30 June				
Total persons	'000	301.3	304.6	308.0
Males	'000	149.9	151.3	152.8
Females	'000	151.4	153.2	155.2

**By statistical subdivision  
as at 30 June**

		1994	1995	1996
North Canberra	'000	n.a.	38.5	38.8
Belconnen	'000	87.6	87.0	85.5
Woden Valley	'000	33.4	33.1	33.0
Weston Creek-Stromlo	'000	25.8	25.2	24.9
Tuggerong	'000	86.9	88.7	89.6
South Canberra	'000	n.a.	22.1	22.7
Gungahlin Hall	'000	n.a.	9.2	12.7
ACT Balance	'000	n.a.	0.4	0.3

**By age group**

0-14 years	'000	66.7	66.3	67.8
15-19 years	'000	24.8	24.2	25.1
20-59 years	'000	180.4	183.6	183.9
60-64 years	'000	8.3	8.5	8.9
65 years and over	'000	20.7	21.4	22.3

**Vital events registered**

		1993	1994	1995
Births	no.	4 414	4 461	4 415
Deaths	no.	1 110	1 222	1 114
Infant deaths	no.	19	21	21
Marriages	no.	1 783	1 661	1 753
Divorces	no.	2 061	2 071	1 787

**Rate per 1,000 mean ERP, 30 June**

Births	no.	14.8	14.8	14.5
Deaths	no.	3.7	4.1	3.7
Marriages	no.	6.0	5.5	5.8
Divorces	no.	6.9	6.9	5.9

**EARNINGS AND INCOME**

		Aug 1994	Aug 1995	Aug 1996
Average weekly earnings				
Full-time adult ordinary time	\$	714.4	742.9	784.8
Full-time adult males	\$	777.7	799.4	852.4
Full-time adult females	\$	630.9	661.5	699.2

**EDUCATION**

		1995	1996	1997
Schools				
Pre-school centres	no.	85	84	86
Government	no.	98	98	98
Non-government	no.	39	42	42
Higher Education	no.	(a)4	(a)4	(a)4
TAFE(b)	no.	9	9	9
Teaching staff (full time equivalent)				
Government	no.	2 630	2 705	n.a.
Non-government	no.	1 302	1 206	n.a.
Students				
Pre-school centres	no.	4 596	4 374	4 122
Government	no.	40 120	39 940	40 031
Non-government	no.	20 988	21 444	21 708
Higher education	no.	20 012	20 559	n.a.
TAFE	no.	20 585	n.a.	n.a.

(a) Includes Signadou Campus of the Australian Catholic University.

(b) Canberra Institute of Technology is responsible for 9 campuses and 2 annexes.

**EMPLOYED PERSONS BY  
INDUSTRY**

	Unit	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	'000	1.1	0.7	0.4
Mining	'000	0.1	0.1	0.2
Manufacturing	'000	5.8	5.8	4.9
Electricity, gas and water supply	'000	0.9	0.7	0.7
Construction	'000	10.8	9.2	10.6

	Unit	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
Wholesale trade	'000	5.3	5.2	4.2
Retail trade	'000	21.1	21.2	20.6
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	'000	8.8	8.9	7.5
Transport and storage	'000	4.5	4.9	4.2
Communication services	'000	2.7	2.7	2.1
Finance and insurance	'000	3.9	4.1	2.9
Property and business services	'000	17.0	18.3	18.8
Government administration and defence	'000	36.7	39.6	40.0
Education	'000	12.2	13.6	13.7
Health and community services	'000	12.8	11.7	12.5
Cultural and recreational services	'000	6.0	5.2	4.7
Personal and other services	'000	6.4	6.2	7.1
Total	'000	156.1	158.1	155.1
<b>FOREIGN TRADE</b>		<b>1993-94</b>	<b>1994-95</b>	<b>1995-96</b>
Imports	\$'000	21 745	12 143	9 597
Exports	\$'000	11 406	17 763	15 593
<b>LABOUR FORCE</b>		<b>1993-94</b>	<b>1994-95</b>	<b>1995-96</b>
Labour force	'000	164.8	166.5	170.4
Employed persons	'000	152.7	154.5	157.6
Males	'000	82.2	82.9	84.4
Females	'000	70.4	71.6	73.2
Unemployed persons	'000	12.1	12.0	12.8
Males	'000	6.6	7.0	7.2
Females	'000	5.4	5.0	5.6
Unemployment rate	%	7.3	7.2	7.5
Males	%	7.5	7.7	7.9
Females	%	7.2	6.6	7.1
Participation rate	%	72.8	72.6	73.7
Males	%	80.3	80.8	80.8
Females	%	65.7	65.7	66.8
<b>MANUFACTURING</b>		<b>1993-94</b>	<b>1994-95</b>	<b>1995-96</b>
Establishments	no.	281	n.a.	n.a.
Persons employed at 30 June	no.	4 200	4 200	3 900
Wages and salaries	\$m	125.0	128.0	122.0
Turnover	\$m	553.0	554.0	534.0
<b>PRICES</b>		<b>Jun 1994</b>	<b>Jun 1995</b>	<b>Jun 1996</b>
<b>Consumer Price Index</b>				
<b>(Canberra) Base: 1989-90=100.0</b>				
All groups		112.0	117.6	121.4
Food		111.4	116.7	119.6
Clothing		106.7	107.1	107.0
Housing		99.3	110.7	112.5
Household equipment and operation		107.8	110.4	113.6
Transportation		117.8	122.1	129.9
Tobacco and alcohol		132.2	143.3	155.7
Health and personal care		129.0	134.5	141.2
Recreation and education		112.0	112.0	114.1
<b>Average retail prices (cents)</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Jun 1994</b>	<b>Jun 1995</b>	<b>Jun 1996</b>
Milk, carton, supermarket sales	1 litre	105	109	106
Bread, white loaf, sliced, supermarket	750 g	167	185	185
Rump steak	1 kg	1 072	1 186	1 097
Coffee	150 g jar	432	568	571
Petrol, loaded	1 litre	71.9	75.0	78.7
Petrol, unleaded	1 litre	70.9	73.0	76.5

For more detailed information on ACT, *Australian Capital Territory in Focus, 1997* (Cat. no. 1307.8) is now available at the ABS Bookshop for \$39.00.

<b>PRIVATE FINANCE</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>1993-94</b>	<b>1994-95</b>	<b>1995-96</b>
Bank deposits held as at 30 June	\$m	3 246	4 197	4 442
Lending commitments for housing finance for owner occupation	\$m	1 315	1 025	1 006
Personal finance	\$m	506	548	605
Commercial finance	\$m	1 129	1 009	1 174
Lease finance	\$m	114	97	86
<b>PUBLIC FINANCE</b>		<b>1993-94</b>	<b>1994-95</b>	<b>1995-96</b>
Current outlays	\$m	1 067	1 083	1 128
Final consumption expenditure	\$m	805	825	859
Interest payments	\$m	59	51	52
Other current outlays	\$m	203	207	131
Capital outlays	\$m	154	194	131
Gross fixed capital expenditure	\$m	190	213	147
Other capital outlays	\$m	2	8	
Revenue and grants received	\$m	1 178	1191	1 184
Taxes, fees and fines	\$m	522	540	548
Grants from Commonwealth Gov't	\$m	574	572	546
Other revenue	\$m			—
<b>RETAIL TRADE</b>		<b>1993-94</b>	<b>1994-95</b>	<b>1995-96</b>
Turnover				
Food retailing	\$m	775.7	836.4	917.3
Department stores	\$m	278.3	281.8	289.0
Clothing and soft goods retailing	\$m	154.3	150.1	176.9
Household goods retailing	\$m	202.8	212.4	199.5
Recreational goods retailing	\$m	128.6	135.6	142.5
Other household goods retailing	\$m	182.4	174.6	179.1
Hospitality and service industries	\$m	337.7	344.5	346.2
Total	\$m	2 059.8	2 135.4	2 250.3
<b>STATE ACCOUNTS</b>		<b>1993-94</b>	<b>1994-95</b>	<b>1995-96</b>
Gross State product	\$m	9 491	9 962	10 472
Private final consumption expenditure	\$m	5 052	5 060	5 580
Private gross fixed capital expenditure	\$m	1 183	953	787
<b>TOURIST ACCOMMODATION</b>		<b>1993-94</b>	<b>1994-95</b>	<b>1995-96</b>
Hotels, motels and guest houses (with facilities)				
Establishments at 30 June	no.	43	44	45
Guest rooms at 30 June	no.	3 530	3 593	3 666
Takings from accommodation	\$'000	69 584	75 356	76 436
Room occupancy rate	%	64.2	65.4	62.7
Holiday flats and units				
Letting entities at 30 June	no.	16	17	18
Units at 30 June	no.	574	766	778
Takings from accommodation	\$'000	10 591	14 877	18 007
Unit occupancy rate	%	66.9	70.5	70.0
Caravan parks				
Establishments at 30 June	no.	5	5	5
Sites at 30 June	no.	1 074	1 074	1039
Takings from accommodation	\$'000	2 954	2 851	2 602
Site occupancy rate	%	42.1	41.0	39.0
<b>TRANSPORT</b>		<b>1993-94</b>	<b>1994-95</b>	<b>1995-96</b>
New motor vehicles registered				
Passenger motor vehicles	no.	10 871	10 582	11 054
Trucks	no.	132	161	82
Motor cycles	no.	197	350	341
Motor vehicles on register		<b>1994</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1996</b>
Passenger motor vehicles	'000	157.0	156.6	n.a.
Trucks	'000	3.8	3.8	n.a.
Motor cycles	'000	4.6	5.0	n.a.

<b>WELFARE SERVICES</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1996</b>
Pensioners at 30 June				
Age (incl. wives'/carers' pensioners)	no.	11 850	12 250	12 347
Invalid (incl. wives'/carers' pensioners)	no.	4 332	4 781	4 998
Sole parent	no.	4 482	4 586	4 812
Basic Family Payment	no.	55 186	52 388	52 345
Job Search and New Start Allowance	no.	9 583	9 687	10 074

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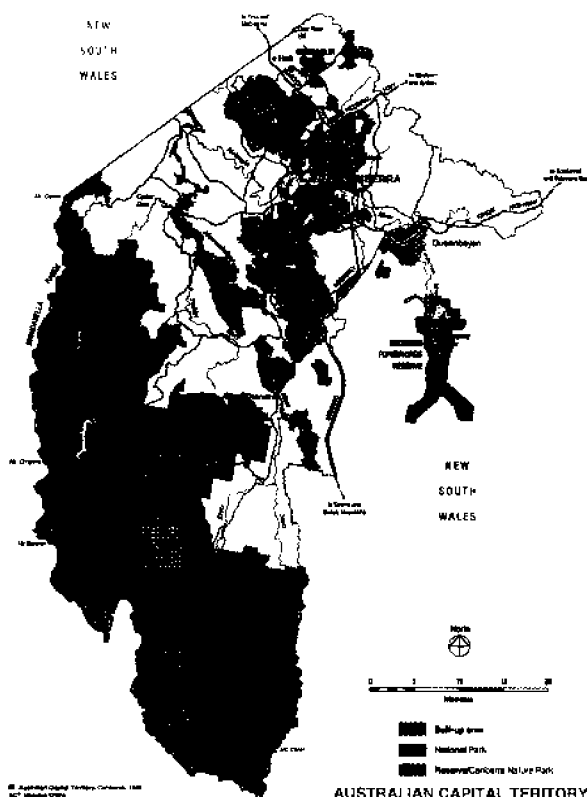
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